

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PANAMA 06059 222005Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-10 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01
ICA-11 SP-02 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /058 W
-----076985 230637Z /15
R 221956Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8527

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EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, PEPR, PN, TW
SUBJECT: ROC TRADE MISSION TO PANAMA

1. A GROUP OF CHINESE (TAIWAN) BUSINESSMEN ARRIVED IN PANAMA AUGUST 19 TO INVESTIGATE THE POSSIBILITIES OF EXPANDING TRADE BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. THE VISIT WILL INCLUDE A PUBLIC EXHIBITION OF CHINESE PRODUCTS AND MEETINGS WITH OFFICIALS OF BOTH THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS.
 2. LATIN AMERICA REPORTEDLY IMPORTED GOODS VALUED AT MORE THAN 400 MILLION DOLLARS FROM TAIWAN IN 1977, AND THE COLON FREE ZONE WILL ACCOUNT FOR AN ESTIMATED 150 MILLION DOLLARS OF THE 1978 LATIN AMERICAN TOTAL.
 3. THE TAIWANESE VISIT FOLLOWS ON THE HEELS OF THE DEPARTURE OF AN OFFICIAL GOP MISSION TO EASTERN EUROPE (REFTEL), AND PROVIDES FURTHER SUPPORT FOR EMBASSY'S THESIS THAT PANAMA WILL CONSORT WITH MUTUALLY ANTAGONISTIC BEDFELLOWS IN THE PURSUIT OF SOME WAY OUT OF HER CURRENT ECONOMIC DOLDRUMS. FOR PANAMA, IDEOLOGY IS INFINITELY LESS REPEAT LESS IMPORTANT THAN THE CONTENTS OF A POTENTIAL CUSTOMER'S WALLET. JORDEN
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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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